

Table 3.4-10. Two Methods of Texture Analysis of the Ruby Gulch Tailings (Prodggers 2000)

Sample	Gravel Content (%)	Sand Content (%)	Silt Content (%)	Clay Content (%)	Silt+Clay Content (%) and Texture
Z1	63	16	19	2	21
Fine earth fraction	--	43	51	5	Silt loam
Z2	60	20	17	3	20
Fine earth fraction	--	50	43	8	Loam
Z3	50	31	15	4	19
Fine earth fraction	--	62	30	8	Sandy loam

* Something like 15% (silt + clay) in the total volume – not just the fine earth fraction – is a reasonable value to identify minimally acceptable plant growth media. If the material is mixed with soils that have around 20% clay content, even coarse material can be beneficial.